

SAN JACINTO BATTLEGROUND CONSERVANCY

811 RUSK, SUITE 720 . HOUSTON, TEXAS 77002

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San Jacinto Battleground
Conservancy is a nonprofit
organization dedicated to
protecting, preserving and
securing the San Jacinto
Battleground for future
generations by facilitating
conservation of land, artifacts
and native habitat original
to the 1836 battlefield and
educating the public about
the history and far-reaching
significance of the battle for
Texas independence.

January 30, 2012

Mr. Carter Smith Mr. Neil Thomas c/o Texas Parks and Wildlife Department 4200 Smith School Road Austin, Texas 78744-3291 Capt. C. R. Pietras, USN Ms. Tuwana Cummings c/o Department of the Navy Naval Sea Systems Command 1333 Isaac Hull Avenue Washington Navy Yard DC 20376

RE: Battleship Texas Project

Dear Capt. Pietras, Ms. Cummings, and Messrs. Smith and Thomas:

TPWD and NAVSEA are to be commended for organizing and conducting the initial Section 106 meeting last Thursday for the referenced project. It was both informative and helpful.

At the end of the meeting, we were left with the understanding that NAVSEA and TPWD will take a "hard look" at feasible alternatives to the "sand box" dry berth proposed at San Jacinto Battleground, including alternative locations for the ship. I understand that you are requesting that proposals be submitted.

To ensure that this process is handled correctly, I would like to request a letter, to be signed by NAVSEA and an appropriate executive at TPWD setting forth the following: (1) a brief outline of the NEPA/Section 106 review process that has led to the current effort to take a "hard look" at alternative locations for the ship, and (2) an invitation that welcomes *and encourages* the addressees to submit proposals for preserving the ship at a new location.

We will provide names of addressees for the letter.

In addition, the letter should inform the addressees that they may consult with representatives of NAVSEA, TPWD, AECOM, and AECOM's subcontractors, including the individuals and firms retained to conduct the ship and hull surveys as reflected in AECOM's report in September 2011. Open access to these agencies, firms, and individuals will be necessary for the purposes of preparing a viable proposal.

Since time is of the essence, we request that you notify us as soon as possible of your ability to provide the letter so we can give you the names of the addressees.

Sincerely, Devauet

P.O. BOX 940536 • HOUSTON, TEXAS 77094-7536 • 713-237-8997 • 281-558-5876 FAX • sjbc-texas@usa.net